

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

INRE-00 IO-12 AID-20 EB-11 SCA-01 EUR-25 RSR-01 OIC-04

NIC-01 /157 W

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P 261814 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4078

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 0913

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, US, CU, UY

SUBJ: OASGA, CONSULTATION ON CUBA

REF: STATE 54491

1. AS REQUESTED REFSTATETEL I AGAIN DISCUSSED WITH FONMIN BLANCO GOU' S POSITION RE CUBA IN FORTHCOMING OASGA. BLANCO SAID HE COULD ASSURE ME POSITIVELY THAT URUGUAYAN POSITION COINCIDES WITH THAT OF US. GOU AGREES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO " HOLD THE LINE" ON CUBA. URUGUAY WOULD JOIN WITH THE US IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

2. BLANCO SAID HIS EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH ME WAS BASED ON HIS EVALUATION THAT US AND URUGUAY POSITION WOULD BE A MINORITY ONE. HE SAID IN SOUTH AMERICA HE WAS SURE OF ONLY, BLOVIA, AND PARAGUAY HAVING SAME POSITION. ARGENTINA SHIFT IN POSITION ALREADY UNDERWAY AND VENEZUELA, ECUADOR AND COLUMBIA COULD ALSO BE EXPECTED TO SHIFT. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THE SITUATION WAS IN CENTRAL AMERICA BUT HE DOUBTED THAT SHOULD CUBA ISSUE COME TO A VOTE THERE WOULD BE MORE THAN SIX OR SEVEN VOTING WITH THE US AND URUGUAY. IT WAS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT HE EXPRESSED HOPE SOME FEASIBLE MEANS COULD BE FOUND TO REMOVE THE ISSUE OF CUBA AS A PERTURBATING FACTOR IN HEMISPHERE. HE SAID EVENTUALLY SOME WAY WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND TO ALLOW CUBA TO RETURN TO THE HEMISPHERIC FOLD, PERHAPS BY MEXICO, PERU AND CHILE

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BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON CUBA TO CHANGE ITS BEHAVIOR
AND BY THE US ON THE SOVIET UNION TO CEASE ITS MILITARY
ACTIVITIES IN CUBA. IN ANY CASE BLANCO SAID IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT AVOID WEAKENING THE OAS UNTIL A POSITION ON
CUBA ACCEPTABLE TO A SIZEABLE MAJORITY OF THE OAS MEMBERS
WAS FOUND.

2. BLANCO LEAVES MARCH 27 FOR EUROPE. HE IS VERY PLEASED
AT PROBABILITY THAT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME
FOR HIM TO SIGN NEW EXTRADITION TREATY WHILE HE IS IN
WASHINGTON. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH
US DEL. THEY WILL FIND HIM A STRAIGHT- SHOOTING AND
EFFECTIVE PARTICIPANT IN GA.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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